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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Troops and movement - - Potsdam Area

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EVALUATION

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 19 April 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 7 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)1 sketch on ditto

REMARKS

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1. a. The engineer unit stationed in the Delius Kaserne, Potsdam (N 53/Z 63), returned to the military post on 2 February 1950 upon completion of field exercises at the Elbe river.

b. About 100 new, [redacted] trucks, heading toward Krampnitz (N 53/Z 64), were observed in Potsdam on 3 February 1950. Some of the trucks were driven by Germans, others by Soviet soldiers.

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[redacted] the trucks came from the Brandenburg (N 53/Z 23) Opel Plant and were destined for the former Kavallerie Schule, Krampnitz.

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c. The following information on the Delius Kaserne was obtained between 10 and 15 February 1950:

(1) The barracks were occupied by artillery units subordinate to a brigade headquarters and an engineer unit of 40 officers and 350 EM, equipped with motor vehicles [redacted]

[redacted] In the carpentershop of the latter unit large boxes were being made.

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(2) The brigade headquarters is in a four-story building with 24 rooms (see No 1 on Annex 2). The room of the general who was said to arrive from Wildpark was still being renovated on 4 February 1950.

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(4) The following guns and tractors were observed in gun storage sheds (see No 11, 12 and 15 on Annex 1):

- gun shed No 11: Nine 172-mm guns and six caterpillar tractors;
- gun shed No 12: Nine 172-mm guns and nine 76.2-mm AT guns;
- gun shed No 13: Nine 172-mm guns, three 76.2-mm AT guns and four to six caterpillar tractors.

five other caterpillar tractors were seen in a garage which is not entered on Annex 1.

(5) Each month large conferences with officers of other units also participating were held in rooms on the second floor of building No 15. Up to 50 passenger cars and 20 trucks were counted on such occasions.

(6) [ ] was identified as assigned to an artillery unit.

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(7) Service of the piece drill with eight 37-mm AT guns in the barracks area was observed for the first time on 14 February 1950.

(8) Intensive activity was observed with the artillery units [ ] blocked-up motor vehicles were re-  
paired and made ready for operation; fuel tanks of motor vehicles and large tank trucks were filled; remaining gasoline was put into 200-liter barrels; field kitchens were provided with ration supplies and sealed; officers and GI who were already issued leave certificates were not permitted to depart; boxes of various sizes were made in the barracks.

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(d) In mid-February 1950 it was learned that billets for older officers, ranking from captain to lieutenant colonel, were prepared in the former Kriegsschule (officer candidate school). The billets include about 100 rooms to be occupied by two officers each who are serving with administrative offices in Potsdam.

(e) Six-month candidate courses were conducted in the former Raehrichschule (officer candidate school).

2. The following information was obtained in the Potsdam area in the first half of February 1950:

a. Adolf Hitler Kaserne:

(1) Eighty to ninety air force soldiers wearing new winter clothing entered the barracks on 6 February 1950.

(2) Sixty officers, ranking from major up to and including colonel, were seen to leave the headquarters building on 14 February 1950, some going in the direction of Jaegertor, others toward the officers' mess and club on Jaegerstrasse. The officers wore light blue-bordered black, green-bordered black or

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light blue collar patches and epaulets with tank or crossed-gun-barrel insignia. They all carried portfolios or dispatch cases.

b. Husaren Kaserne on Berlinerstrasse (now Stalinstrasse):

About 60 soldiers were observed at basic drill in the barracks yard on 15 February 1950.

The damaged sections of the barracks have been completely repaired.

Only 20 of about 100 windows of the troop quarters were lighted in the evening.

c. Garde-du-Corps Kaserne on Stalinallee:

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About 50 passenger cars [redacted] were parked in the barracks yard on 15 February 1950. Some of these cars picked up generals and other high-ranking officers at the "Generals' quarters" and brought them to Wildpark, Bornstedt or the kommandatura on Pappelallee.

The gate guard wore red-bordered black epaulets with winged-wheel insignia.

d. Unteroffizierschule (NCO school) on Jaegerallee:

About 150 troops practiced in the barracks yard on 16 February 1950.

Only 15 of about 130 windows were lighted in the evening.

e. Delius Kaserne:

Occupied by about 1,000 troops according to local residents living nearby.

The southern and northern barracks gates were guarded by soldiers with artillery insignia.

f. Motor pool on Leipzigerstrasse and workshop of Unit APH 69 061 on Berlinerstrasse:

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The motor pool which belonged to Unit [redacted] and was equipped with about 20 motor vehicles [redacted] was dissolved in mid-February 1950. Exclusively German drivers had been employed there.

The workshop of Unit [redacted] 061 on Berlinerstrasse was dissolved at the same time. The German workers were discharged and the machinery stored at 3 Jaegerallee.

g. "Generals' quarters":

It was observed that the "Generals' quarters" on Weinmeisterstrasse and Langhansstrasse were still being vacated; none of the requisitioned houses was released.

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3. The following information was obtained in the Potsdam area during the first half of February 1950:

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a. Five trucks [redacted], occupied by about 50 troops and towing 37-mm AT guns, moved from Kapellenberg to Bornstedter Feld in the afternoon of 1 February 1950. The about 19-year-old troops held service of the piece drill there under the supervision of a captain.

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b. Radio trucks [redacted] with trailers were observed at Minenberg near Bornstedter Feld on 2 February 1950. About 10-meter-high crank masts with antennas were extended from the radio trucks. The trailers, [redacted] carried signal equipment.

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c. Ten trucks [redacted] moved from Drewitz (N 53/Z 63) toward Potsdam-Babelsberg on 10 February 1950.

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d. The following information on military quarters [redacted]

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(1) Ruinenberg Kaserne:

occupied by an army post office. Little motor traffic was observed there.

(2) Garde Platen Kaserne on Jaegerallee:

lightly occupied. Sixty soldiers were observed at athletic exercises on 17 February 1950.

(3) "Generals" Quarters:

occupied by a guard unit of which about 150 troops in groups of 50 men each, led by captains, were daily observed at field training on Bornstedter Feld.

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Comment:

a. Artillery brigade in Potsdam.

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(1) The observations in the pelius kaserno, [redacted] noticeably clarify the [redacted] situation of the Potsdam GH, artillery units which are directly responsible to the GORC.

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[redacted] an artillery brigade headquarters with [redacted] CO: [redacted] (Arty) [redacted] [redacted] Col Litinski, is in the pelius kaserno, Potsdam. The brigade presumably includes a regiment with [redacted] to which a Gds [redacted] Demin belongs.

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(2) [redacted] was assigned in World War II to the headquarters or one of the subordinate regiments of the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig. [redacted] it was observed with a Potsdam artillery unit, mostly in the pelius kaserno, and with rail shipments from Potsdam to [redacted]. According to the document and the wartime files, it can be assumed with a fair degree of certainty that [redacted] belongs to one of the two organic regiments of the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig rather than to the [redacted] brigade headquarters.

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(3) [redacted] has [redacted] been observed in Potsdam; [redacted]

[redacted] the headquarters of an artillery brigade with [redacted] very probably the Hq 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig. This assumption is corroborated by the observation of 172-mm guns with caterpillar tractors.

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In World War II, the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig was subordinate to the 6th Arty Div. It is not known whether the brigade is still assigned to the 6th Arty Div or whether it is directly responsible to the VI Arty Corps. The latter possibility is given more

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credence since the artillery units (possibly three artillery brigades) in the Rathenow-Burg-Brandenburg area are probably assigned to the 6th Arty div.

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(4) 1 col Janilo was promoted to the rank of brigadier general (Arty) in 1945, according to newspaper dispatches.

The other officers are not known.

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(5) The second regiment of the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brigade presumably has [ ] and is stationed in Potsdam-Miche.

(6) Summarizing, the following units were confirmed in Potsdam up to 15 February 1950:

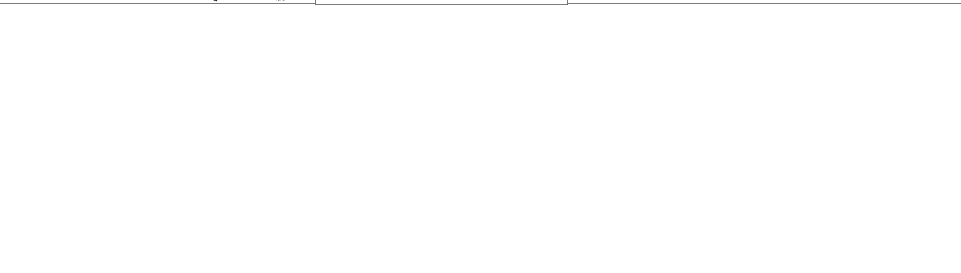
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Hq 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig [ ]

CG: Brig Gen (Arty) Janilo  
CO: Gds Col Litinski

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? Ho. Gun Arty Regt [ ]



Annex

Soviet Military Installation on the Potsdam-Nedlitz road.

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